

Alabama Medicaid DUR Board Meeting
October 27, 2004

Attendees: Rob Colburn, Steve Espy, Darin Elliott, Richard Freeman, Greer L. Geiger, Kevin Green, Rhonda Harden, Jimmy Jackson, Louise Jones, Garry Magouirk, John Searcy

Members Absent: W. Thomas Geary, Steven Rostand, Paula Thompson

Garry Magouirk brought the meeting to order at 10:30 am.

Louise Jones introduced the new members of the DUR Board, which included Kevin Green (Mobile), Darin Elliott (Montgomery), Rhonda Harden (Tuskegee) and Greer L. Geiger (Birmingham).

The existing members were recognized as: Rob Colburn (Northport), Richard Freeman (Auburn), Jimmy Jackson (Alexander City), Garry Magouirk (Fayette), Steven Rostand (Birmingham), John Searcy (Medicaid Medical Director), Steve Espy (Health Information Designs, Inc.) and Louise Jones (Medicaid Pharmacy Service Division Director).

Rob Colburn moved that minutes of the August 11, 2004 DUR Board meeting be approved. Jimmy Jackson seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Election of Vice Chair: Rob Colburn was unanimously voted and elected as Vice Chair.

DUR Update: Steve Espy explained the reason for this quarter's abbreviated reports was that the meeting and quarter cycle do not currently coincide with each other due to scheduling of the meetings with P&T meetings. Mr. Espy briefly explained the Prior Authorization (PA) process, Help Desk operations, HID contract responsibilities, Academic Detailing Program and DUR process for the benefit of the new board members.

Mr. Espy explained the emergency plan that was activated during the week Hurricane Ivan passed through Alabama. He explained how this plan affected some of the data such as early refills.

Mr. Espy reviewed the PA help desk reports for the months of August and September 2004. This included Monthly PA, Override, and Call and Fax Summary. He reported that the acne drug class number of approval was zero due to the class no longer being covered effective August 2, 2004. Questions were asked regarding the discontinued coverage of the acne class. After discussion, Ms. Jones stated the class was no longer covered due to priorities set by Medicaid in order to meet budgetary goals.

Criteria Recommendation: After the Board reviewed recent criteria used, Mr. Espy recommended Osteoporosis criteria. The criteria was recommended to be used for the next two cycles which is 6 months with two mail outs with a minimum of 300 letters per mail out. The DUR Board voted to approve the Osteoporosis criteria for the next two cycles. See attached Osteoporosis Criteria.

Medicaid Update: Louise Jones provided the following information to the Board:
The contract for Health Information Designs, Inc. (HID) was extended for November 1, 2004 through October 31, 2005.

HID is working with Medicaid and EDS to develop an electronic PA system which will greatly decrease the use of paper and response time for PA requests. Mr. Espy explained the electronic PA system. The target date to begin the electronic PA is December 1, 2004.

Medicaid is working with Blue Cross Blue Shield through INFO Solutions. This program can be down loaded by prescribers onto a PDA to obtain patient information. This patient information will include pharmacy claims, lab work, diagnosis, and other pertinent medical history. This program is offered to the Agency at no charge. The means of acquiring a PDA for prescribers is currently being worked out.

This program will be beginning in phases targeting Patient 1st physicians first. The scheduled implementation is December 1, 2004.

Savings from the Brand Limits, which were effective July 1, 2004, will be sent to Board members as a mid-quarter report.

Medicaid will begin hiring new staff in the Pharmacy Division.

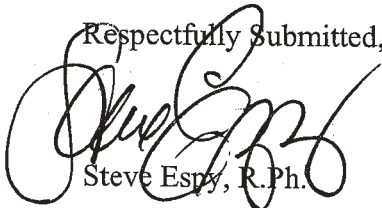
Medicaid is preparing an ITB to include the clinical support contract, drug rebate program and PDL. The new contract will be awarded, and is scheduled to begin by February 1, 2005.

Medicaid has a contract with Health Watch Technology, (HWT) for audit of providers including prescribers, labs, and pharmacies. HWT is paid based on the amount collected; therefore the service is no upfront cost to the state. Mary McIntyre, Kelli Littlejohn and Pharmacy Program Staff work with HWT by reviewing their algorithms before letters are sent to providers. HWT recently completed pharmacy audits and have collected in excess of one million dollars. Lab providers will be the next group to be audited.

Next Meeting: The date for the next DUR Board meeting was set for January, 26 2004 @ 10:30 am.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,



Steve Espy, R.Ph.

The DUR Board recommendation is to continue Osteoporosis criteria for the next two cycles.

Carol Herrmann ☒ Approve () Deny 1/11/05
Carol Herrmann, Commissioner Date

Kathy Hall ☒ Approve () Deny 1/11/05
Kathy Hall, Deputy Commissioner Date

John Searcy ☒ Approve () Deny 1/10/05
John Searcy, Medical Director Date

Mary McIntyre ☒ Approve () Deny 1/11/05
Mary McIntyre, Medical Director Date